

Customer No. 31013

Atty. Docket No. 104841-00003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Carl R. Aron et al.

Serial No.: To Be Determined

Filed: Herewith

For: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CREATING A COST-EFFECTIVE AND
EFFICIENT RETAIL ELECTRIC POWER EXCHANGE/ENERGY
SERVICE PROVIDER LOAD OPTIMIZATION EXCHANGE AND
NETWORK THEREFOR**

Mail Stop New Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, before "FIELD OF THE INVENTION", insert the following:

-- **RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/663,813,
filed September 15, 2000.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2-27, 47-161 and 163-288, without prejudice.

EXPRESS MAIL CERT. NO. EV328960173US
DATE OF DEPOSIT: September 24, 2003